

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS: This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant patent application.

Listing of claims:

1-243. (Cancelled)

244. (new) A composition comprising a duplex consisting of a first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and a second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound, wherein:

each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound independently consists of 17 to 25 linked nucleosides;

at least 17 contiguous nucleobases of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound are 100% complementary to at least 17 contiguous nucleobases of the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and to a target messenger RNA;

at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a plurality of nucleosides comprising a 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moiety;

at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one chemical modification that increases its resistance to single-stranded nucleases, or increases its affinity for the other oligomeric compound, or both; and

the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound are not covalently linked to each other.

245. (new) The composition of claim 244 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a central gap region flanked by at least two wing regions.

246. (new) The composition of claim 244 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a central gap region flanked by at least two wing regions.

247. (new) The composition of claim 244 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least 4 contiguous nucleosides that comprise 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moieties.

248. (new) The composition of claim 244 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least 4 contiguous nucleosides that comprise 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moieties.

249. (new) The composition of claim 248 wherein the at least 4 contiguous nucleosides comprising 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moieties of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the at least 4 contiguous nucleosides comprising 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moieties of the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound hybridize to each other in the duplex.

250. (new) The composition of claim 244 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a 2' sugar modification.

251. (new) The composition of claim 250 wherein at least one of the 2' sugar modifications is selected from fluoro, alkoxy, amino-alkoxy, allyloxy, imidazolylalkoxy, polyethylene glycol, and O-ethyl-O-methyl.

252. (new) The composition of claim 244 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound independently comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a 2' sugar modification.

253. (new) The composition of claim 252 wherein at least one of the 2' sugar modifications is selected from fluoro, alkoxy, amino-alkoxy, allyloxy, imidazolylalkoxy, polyethylene glycol, and O-ethyl-O-methyl.

254. (new) The compound of claim 244 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a plurality of nucleoside subunits comprising a 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moiety and at least one nucleoside comprising a 2' sugar modification.

255. (new) The compound of claim 244 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a plurality of nucleoside subunits comprising a 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moiety and at least one nucleoside comprising a 2' sugar modification.

256. (new) The composition of claim 244 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro.

257. (new) The composition of claim 244 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro.

258. (new) The composition of claim 244 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least two nucleosides each comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro.

259. (new) The composition of claim 244 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least two nucleosides each comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro.

260. (new) The composition of claim 244 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro and at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-O-alkyl.

261. (new) The composition of claim 244 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro and at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-O-alkyl.

262. (new) The composition of claim 244 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least two nucleosides each comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-OCH₃.

263. (new) The composition of claim 262 wherein the 5' terminal nucleoside of at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a sugar comprising a 2'-OCH₃.

264. (new) The composition of claim 244 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least two nucleosides comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-OCH₃.

265. (new) The composition of claim 264 wherein the 5' terminal nucleoside of at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a sugar comprising a 2'-OCH₃.

266. (new) The composition of claim 244 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least two nucleosides comprising different 2' sugar modifications.

267. (new) The composition of claim 244 wherein the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a 2' sugar modification and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside that comprises a different 2' sugar modification.

268. (new) The composition of claim 244 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar surrogate.

269. (new) The composition of claim 244 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar surrogate.

270. (new) The composition of claim 244 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one chemically modified internucleoside linkage.

271. (new) The composition of claim 270 wherein at least one chemically modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

272. (new) The composition of claim 244 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one chemically modified internucleoside linkage.

273. (new) The composition of claim 272 wherein at least one chemically modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

274. (new) A composition comprising a duplex consisting of a first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and a second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound, wherein:

each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound independently consists of 17 to 25 linked nucleoside subunits;

at least 17 contiguous nucleobases of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound are 100% complementary to at least 17 contiguous nucleobases of the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and to a target messenger RNA;

each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a plurality of nucleoside subunits comprising a 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moiety;

at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one chemical modification that increases its resistance to single-stranded nucleases or increases its affinity for the other oligomeric compound, or both; and

the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound are not covalently linked to each other.

275. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a central gap region flanked by at least two wing regions.

276. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a central gap region flanked by at least two wing regions.

277. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least 4 contiguous nucleosides that comprise 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moieties.

278. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least 4 contiguous nucleosides that comprise 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moieties.

279. (new) The composition of claim 278 wherein the at least 4 contiguous nucleosides comprising 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moieties of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the at least 4 contiguous nucleosides comprising 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moieties of the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound hybridize to each other in the duplex.

280. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a 2' sugar modification.

281. (new) The composition of claim 280 wherein at least one of the 2' sugar modifications is selected from fluoro, alkoxy, amino-alkoxy, allyloxy, imidazolylalkoxy, polyethylene glycol, and O-ethyl-O-methyl.

282. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound independently comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a 2' sugar modification.

283. (new) The composition of claim 282 wherein at least one of the 2' sugar modifications is selected from fluoro, alkoxy, amino-alkoxy, allyloxy, imidazolylalkoxy, polyethylene glycol, and O-ethyl-O-methyl.

284. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro.

285. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro.

286. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least two nucleosides each comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro.

287. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least two nucleosides each comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro.

288. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound

comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro and at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-O-alkyl.

289. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro and at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-O-alkyl.

290. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least two nucleosides comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-OCH₃.

291. (new) The composition of claim 290 wherein the 5' terminal nucleoside of at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a sugar comprising a 2'-OCH₃.

292. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least two nucleosides comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-OCH₃.

293. (new) The composition of claim 292 wherein the 5' terminal nucleoside of at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a sugar comprising a 2'-OCH₃.

294. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least two nucleosides comprising different 2' sugar modifications.

295. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a 2' sugar modification and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside that comprises a different 2' sugar modification.

296. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar surrogate.

297. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar surrogate.

298. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one chemically modified internucleoside linkage.

299. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein at least one chemically modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

300. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one chemically modified internucleoside linkage.

301. (new) The composition of claim 274 wherein at least one chemically modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

302. (new) A composition comprising a duplex consisting of a first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and a second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound, wherein:

each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound independently consists of 17 to 25 linked nucleoside subunits;

at least 17 contiguous nucleobases of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound are 100% complementary to at least 17 contiguous nucleobases of the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and to a target messenger RNA;

at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a plurality of nucleoside subunits comprising a 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moiety;

each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound independently comprises at least one chemical modification that increases its resistance to single-stranded nucleases or increases its affinity for the other oligomeric compound, or both; and

the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound are not covalently linked to each other.

303. (new) The composition of claim 302 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a central gap region flanked by at least two wing regions.

304. (new) The composition of claim 302 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a central gap region flanked by at least two wing regions.

305. (new) The composition of claim 302 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least 4 contiguous nucleosides that comprise 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moieties.

306. (new) The composition of claim 302 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least 4 contiguous nucleosides that comprise 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moieties.

307. (new) The composition of claim 306 wherein the at least 4 contiguous nucleosides comprising 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moieties of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the at least 4 contiguous nucleosides comprising 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar

moieties of the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound hybridize to each other in the duplex.

308. (new) The composition of claim 302 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a 2' sugar modification.

309. (new) The composition of claim 308 wherein at least one of the 2' sugar modifications is selected from fluoro, alkoxy, amino-alkoxy, allyloxy, imidazolylalkoxy, polyethylene glycol, and O-ethyl-O-methyl.

310. (new) The composition of claim 302 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound independently comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a 2' sugar modification.

311. (new) The composition of claim 310 wherein at least one of the 2' sugar modifications is selected from fluoro, alkoxy, amino-alkoxy, allyloxy, imidazolylalkoxy, polyethylene glycol, and O-ethyl-O-methyl.

312. (new) The compound of claim 302 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a plurality of nucleoside subunits comprising a 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moiety and at least one nucleoside comprising a 2' sugar modification.

313. (new) The compound of claim 302 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a plurality of nucleoside subunits comprising a 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moiety and at least one nucleoside comprising a 2' sugar modification.

314. (new) The composition of claim 302 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro.

315. (new) The composition of claim 302 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro.

316. (new) The composition of claim 302 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least two nucleosides each comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro.

317. (new) The composition of claim 302 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least two nucleosides each comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro.

318. (new) The composition of claim 302 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro and at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-O-alkyl.

319. (new) The composition of claim 302 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro and at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-O-alkyl.

320. (new) The composition of claim 302 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least two nucleosides comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-OCH₃.

321. (new) The composition of claim 320 wherein the 5' terminal nucleoside of at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a sugar comprising a 2'-OCH₃.

322. (new) The composition of claim 302 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least two nucleosides comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-OCH₃.

323. (new) The composition of claim 322 wherein the 5' terminal nucleoside of at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a sugar comprising a 2'-OCH₃.

324. (new) The composition of claim 302 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least two nucleosides comprising different 2' sugar modifications.

325. (new) The composition of claim 302 wherein the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a 2' sugar modification and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside that comprises a different 2' sugar modification.

326. (new) The composition of claim 302 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar surrogate.

327. (new) The composition of claim 302 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar surrogate.

328. (new) The composition of claim 302 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one chemically modified internucleoside linkage.

329. (new) The composition of claim 328 wherein at least one chemically modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

330. (new) The composition of claim 302 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one chemically modified internucleoside linkage.

331. (new) The composition of claim 330 wherein at least one chemically modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

332. (new) A composition comprising a duplex consisting of a first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and a second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound, wherein:

each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound independently consists of 17 to 25 linked nucleoside subunits;

at least 17 contiguous nucleobases of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound are 100% complementary to at least 17 contiguous nucleobases of the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and to a target messenger RNA;

each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a plurality of nucleoside subunits comprising a 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moiety;

each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound independently comprises at least one chemical modification that increases its resistance to single-stranded nucleases or increases its affinity for the other oligomeric compound, or both; and

the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound are not covalently linked to each other.

333. (new) The composition of claim 332 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a central gap region flanked by at least two wing regions.

334. (new) The composition of claim 332 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a central gap region flanked by at least two wing regions.

335. (new) The composition of claim 332 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound

comprises at least 4 contiguous nucleosides that comprise 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moieties.

336. (new) The composition of claim 332 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least 4 contiguous nucleosides that comprise 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moieties.

337. (new) The composition of claim 336 wherein the at least 4 contiguous nucleosides comprising 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moieties of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the at least 4 contiguous nucleosides comprising 2'-hydroxyl pentofuranosyl sugar moieties of the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound hybridize to each other in the duplex.

338. (new) The composition of claim 332 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a 2' sugar modification.

339. (new) The composition of claim 338 wherein at least one of the 2' sugar modifications is selected from fluoro, alkoxy, amino-alkoxy, allyloxy, imidazolylalkoxy, polyethylene glycol, and O-ethyl-O-methyl.

340. (new) The composition of claim 332 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound independently comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a 2' sugar modification.

341. (new) The composition of claim 340 wherein at least one of the 2' sugar modifications is selected from fluoro, alkoxy, amino-alkoxy, allyloxy, imidazolylalkoxy, polyethylene glycol, and O-ethyl-O-methyl.

342. (new) The composition of claim 332 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro.

343. (new) The composition of claim 332 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro.

344. (new) The composition of claim 332 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least two nucleosides each comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro.

345. (new) The composition of claim 332 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least two nucleosides each comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro.

346. (new) The composition of claim 332 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro and at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-O-alkyl.

347. (new) The composition of claim 332 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-fluoro and at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-O-alkyl.

348. (new) The composition of claim 332 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least two nucleosides comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-OCH₃.

349. (new) The composition of claim 348 wherein the 5' terminal nucleoside of at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a sugar comprising a 2'-OCH₃.

350. (new) The composition of claim 332 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least two nucleosides comprising a sugar comprising a 2'-OCH₃.

351. (new) The composition of claim 350 wherein the 5' terminal nucleoside of at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises a sugar comprising a 2'-OCH₃.

352. (new) The composition of claim 332 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least two nucleosides comprising different 2' sugar modifications.

353. (new) The composition of claim 332 wherein the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a 2' sugar modification and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside that comprises a different 2' sugar modification.

354. (new) The composition of claim 332 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar surrogate.

355. (new) The composition of claim 332 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one nucleoside comprising a sugar surrogate.

356. (new) The composition of claim 332 wherein at least one of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one chemically modified internucleoside linkage.

357. (new) The composition of claim 356 wherein at least one chemically modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

358. (new) The composition of claim 332 wherein each of the first chemically synthesized oligomeric compound and the second chemically synthesized oligomeric compound comprises at least one chemically modified internucleoside linkage.

359. (new) The composition of claim 358 wherein at least one chemically modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.